(c) No inordinate delay has been reported in granting environmental clearances in respect of the Ultra Mega Power Projects. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has reported the following position in this regard:

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Date of receipt of the proposal	Status
1.	Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project	11.08.2006	Environmental clearance granted on 23.11.2006
2.	Mundra Ultra Mega Power Project	15.11.2006	Environmental clearance granted on 2.03.2007
3.	Krishnapatnam Ultra Mega Power Project	14.06.2007	Environmental clearance granted on 23.10.2007
4.	Tillaiya Ultra Mega Power Project	05.10.2007	Considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee in its meeting held on February 11-13, 2008. The Committee has reconmmended the proposal.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Malnutrition in Vidarbha region

†*74. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any project to save thousands of tribal and other category children of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra from malnutrition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that, on many occasions, young children have even died due to malnutrition; and

(d) if so, the effective steps taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering a Centrally-sponsored Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme which is implemented through State Governments. ICDS provides a package of services comprising supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition and health education. ICDS Scheme has been expanded twice in 2005-06 and 2006-07, increasing the number of ICDS Projects. Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and Mini-AWCs to 6284, 10.53 lakhs and 36829, respectively. For Maharashtra, 79 additional Projects, 22741 AWCs and 7490 Mini-AWCs have been sanctioned during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07. However, no area specific project has been framed for Vidarbha Region.

(c) The malnutrition is not a direct cause of death although it can increase the susceptibility to morbidity and mortality by reducing body is resistance to infections.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Malnutrition is a multifaceted problem, the determinants of which vary from food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health-care, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the situation.

The Government is seized of the problem of malnutrition and is implementing a number of schemes through out the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. Some of these are as under:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

The steps taken in the recent past to increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services under ICDS includes:

* The scheme has been expanded twice in the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 during the Tenth Five Year Plan.
* The Government has doubled the financial norms for supplementary nutrition form Re. 1 to Rs. 2/- per beneficiary per day.
* From the year 2005-06, 50% cost of supplementary nutrition is also being shared with the States/UTs.
* Constant emphasis on States to:
  - Ensure regular supply of Supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms.
  - Ensure effective convergence of health, nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes.

(ii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meal Scheme) [Department of School Education and Literacy];

(iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls (Ministry of Women and Child Development);

(iv) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women and Child Development).

(v) Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) including:

* Meternal Health by promoting institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of ante natal care (ANC), skilled care to pregnant women, Post-partum care at Community level.
* Immunization.
* Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses and malnutrition.
* Emphasis on Infant and Young Child Feeding.
* Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for Children till the

age of 5 years and Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation for preschool children, pregnant and lactating women.

(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vi) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare);

(vii) Targeted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution);

(viii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

Funds to Bihar under RGGVY

*75. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds being made available to Bihar under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) during the last two financial years;

(b) the utilization percentage of the allocated amount;

(c) whether the utilization of the funds is according to the Scheme as envisaged in the Budget; and

(d) how many villages are yet to be covered under the Scheme and what is the time-frame for this?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The year-wise details of funds availed by Bihar Government under RGGVY during last two fiscal years are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Funds under RGGVY are released in instalments commensurate with the progress reported and on certification by the State Government/Implementing Agencies that 80% of the funds already disbursed have since been utilized. RGGVY has not envisaged State-wise/year-wise budgetary allocation for its implementation.

(d) As reported by CEA, there were 18395 un-electrified villages as on 31.12.2007. Bihar Government/Implementing Agencies in the State have envisaged electrification of 12026 un-electrified villages, re-electrification of 8105 de-electrified villages besides intensive electrification of 908 already electrified villages in 31 projects sanctioned so far under RGGVY, as per the details given in Statement-II (*See* below). These projects are under various stages of implementation. Balance 12 no. of projects covering 8823 no. of villages to be electrified are under scrutiny for sanction Statement-III (*See* below).

RGGVY, launched in April, 2005 aims at providing access of electricity to all the rural households in the country including Bihar within five years.

Statement—I

Year-wise release of funds to Bihar under RGGVY

Sl. No.	Year	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
1.	2005-06	181.74
2.	2006-07	470.14